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Agenda item 114 (b)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lesotho, Namibia, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia: draft resolution

Internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the large number of internally displaced persons throughout the world, and conscious of the serious problem this is creating for the international community,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments as well as of international humanitarian law,

Conscious of the human rights as well as the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons,

Conscious also of the need for the United Nations system to comprehensively gather information on the issue of the protection of human rights of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Welcoming the initiative of the Commission on Human Rights on this question and, in particular, its resolution 1992/73 of 5 March 1992, by which it requested the Secretary-General to appoint a representative to study the human

rights issues related to internally displaced persons, and its resolution 1993/95 of 11 March 1993, by which it requested the representative to continue his work aimed at a better understanding of the problems faced by internally displaced persons and their possible long-term solutions,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 1/ which calls for a comprehensive approach by the international community with regard to refugees and displaced persons,

Welcoming the support provided to the representative of the Secretary-General by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department for Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Welcoming also the decision by the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to extend, on a case by case basis and under specific circumstances, protection and assistance to the internally displaced,

Recalling the comprehensive study of the representative of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights 2/ and the useful suggestions and recommendations contained therein,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons; 3/

2. Encourages the representative through dialogue with Governments to continue his review of the needs for international protection and assistance of the internally displaced, including his compilation and analysis of existing rules and norms;

3. Invites the representative to present suggestions and recommendations with regard to ways and means, including the institutional aspects, of providing effective protection and assistance to the internally displaced;

4. Calls upon all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the representative and encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the representative to visit their countries, so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments who have already done so;

5. Urges all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations to provide all possible assistance and support to the representative in the implementation of his programme of activities;

1/ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chapter III.

2/ E/CN.4/1993/35, annex.

3/ A/48/579, annex.

6. Decides to continue its consideration of the question of internally displaced persons at its fiftieth session.